

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Atty Docket No. A01399  
GDG:sd

In re application of:  
Joseph Michael Hoefler

Serial No: : Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Filed: Herewith : Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: Aqueous Silica Dispersion

Commissioner for Patents  
**Mail Stop Patent Application**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND PRIORITY REQUEST**

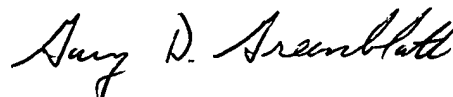
Sir:

This preliminary amendment is filed along with the filing of a non-provisional patent application transmittal form. This patent application claims the benefit of the earlier filing date of prior filed co-pending provisional application serial number 60/403,518 filed on August 14, 2002 under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(4). Please amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

**--Cross Reference To Related Patent Applications**

This is a non-provisional application of prior pending U.S. provisional application serial number 60/403,518 filed August 14, 2002 .--

Respectfully submitted,



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